MINUTES FROM THE FOUR MEE[illegible]NGS HELD IN HELENA.

District 18 Board meeting: Helena, Montana, May 18, 9:30 a.m. Members present: Phyllis Burke, Doug Scott, Paul Nelson, Wayne Bradshaw, Robin McNabb, and Margaret Simonson. Also Marie Jolley and Phil Wood. Absent: Linda Thierman.

The meeting was called to order by President Phyllis. Minutes of the Edmonton meeting read and approved. Phyllis and Paul were reelected this year from Idaho and Wyoming.

There was a discussion held on the article in the Forum stating that Wayne Bradshaw had resigned and that Carol Dibblee had been appointed to take his place. Wayne said he had never resigned and had never had any intentions of resigning. Carol Dibblee was unable to explain the situation. The Board will write to the Forum (Robin to handle) immediately and refute their article in the April Forum, as well as announcing that Wayne Bradshaw is now and always has been the Board member from Utah.

Robin gave a resume on the consideration of incorporating District #18. It was tabled for a later meeting.

Phil gave us the schedule for upcoming regionals:

July, 1979, Calgary; September, 1979, Salt Lake City
May, 1980, Pocatello; July, 1980, Edmonton; Sept., 1980, Saskatoon
May, 1981, Boise; July, 1981, Calgary; October, 1981, Billings

We talked about the spring, 1981, tournament before awarding it to Boise. Is it possible to have Boise, Pocatello, and Salt Lake round robin? A decision on this arrangement was postponed for now. Doug Scott made a motion to have the spring tournament in May, 1981, in Boise. The motion carried..

Doug Scott gave the Treasurers report. He was given authority by the board to pay all bills at his own discretion, with vouchers, that is. Each member will receive three days expenses from this tournament, due to the extra meetings. Phyllis commended Doug on his excellent reports.

Margaret Simonson was appointed Secretary. Paul moved that Marie be named District Coordinator for Grand National Teams and Pairs. Motion carried. There was a discussion on expenses for Grand National Team. Shall we continue to pay per diem expenses? If so, how much? We will pay the same this year as before. It will change next year, due to Canada withdrawing. The amount now is $255.60 per member. Robin will present the financial problem we will have in the future to the National Board. This problem will be facing us, due to the withdrawal of Canada. It was moved that Marie be paid $750.00 salary for coordinating the teams and pairs. Motion carried.

We spent some time considering Al Andrukow's continued absence at our meetings, and decided that he is not representing the Western Conference very well. Phil will draft a letter on Mr. Andrukow's actions to the Western Conference, and Phyllis will sign it..

Phil presented the costs on upcoming Canadian tournaments. The entry fees in Calgary are to be $4.50 per person. Motion made and carried on this.

Our entire Board will meet with the Western Conference Board at 5 p.m. this evening. Tomorrow evening, after listening to their members, we will meet to make a final decision on withdrawing from the Western Conference.

The meeting was adjourned to watch the movie which Judge Robert Sykes and his wife, Jewel, of Kalispell, Montana, had of the facilities in their area. They represent the Kalispell Unit, and wish to have a Regional Tournament at The Outlaw Inn in 1983. It was a beautiful film and very well presented. Phil will be in Kalispell in July to check things out and will report to us later.

Friday, 5:00, Helena. Board meeting with Western Conference Board. The meeting opened with a welcome by President George Clemens and the introduction of District #18 Board members. Robin McNabb read a letter from Don B. Smith, Salt Lake City, and his (Robin's) answer. There ensued a lengthy discussion, mostly by W.C. members on the Western Conference and reasons why District 18 should stay in the conference. Herb Smith is a strong advocate of the Forum and the information all ACBL members receive from it. Don Oakie stated that if only financial problems are involved, and W.C. can show us reasons to stay, we should stay in. More comments on same by Percy Bean and Larry Jolma. Our Board was polled: Wayne, stay; Paul, non-committal, but leaning toward staying; Margaret, same; Doug, stay; Phyllis, stay.

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There was more conversation on Finances. Phil talks about $1.60 per table, which the W.C. receives from the Regionals, and where it goes. Much more discussion, mostly financial. (Which I couldn't keep up with, nor figure out how important to have written down. Any of this information is available from Phil Woods.) One last interesting comment from Larry Jolma, "If you're out, you're out all by yourselves."

Phil Guptil, ACBL representative from Memphis was also present, and mentioned that the everyday bridge player is not aware of where the tournament fees are spent, and that they should be advised. (Future article in Forum, possibly?)

The meeting adjourned, with our Board to meet (alone) Sat. evening to make the final decision. Tomorrow morning an open meeting with the Western Conference Board will be held at 10 a.m. We were served a delicious dinner, courtesy of the Western Conference.

SATURDAY MORNING - 10 A.M. OPEN MEETING

This meeting was chaired by Western Conference President, George Clemens. All W.C. conference members except one were present, as well as all District 18 Board members, except Linda. It was attended by about 100 ACBL members. There were many questions from the floor, such as; why do Directors almost invariably rule in favor of the pros; what is being done about smoking; what can be done about the messes made in the playing rooms; rudeness at the bridge table, etc. There are really no cut and dried answers to any of these questions - the Directors say they try to be fair and impartial on their rulings; see Phyllis's letter in May Forum in regard to damage and clean-up; all over the west they will be trying out non-smoking sectionals - and more will be done in the future; and it is up to all of us to be courteous and friendly at the bridge table. Also there discussion on finances, particularly the cost of the Forum. Phil Guptil, ACBL Rep. fielded the first group of questions and various W.C. board members the financial problems. Meeting adjourned.

SATURDAY NIGHT, 5P.M. DISTRICT 18 BOARD MEETING

Present: Doug, Phyllis, Paul, Wayne, Margaret, Robin, Phil Woods, and Mary Rose Mzracek of Lethbridge, who sat in as Alberta representative, in place of Linda. While waiting for Robin to arrive from the W.C. meeting, we took care of other old business. Paul is to continue as Elections Chairman; we will write a letter to Bob Donaldson stating some complaints which have been made on some of the sectional tournaments. If he so desires, he'll have the job of Tournament Coordinator this year, with a possible change being made in 1980. We also discussed the large amount of Sectionals being held, and the possibility of combining some of the smaller units. Moreon this at a future meeting.

Robin arrived from the W.C. meeting with the announcement that Al Andrukow is no longer representative; either the runner-up to him in the past election (Ken McGuirl), or, if he is not interested, the 2nd runner-up (Hazel Carter) will be our new representative. The Board was then polled on the Western Conference decision. All members present voted to stay in. Paul Nelson made a motion to rescind the motion made in Edmonto withdraw from the W.C. Wayne seconded. It carried unaminously. The Board authorized Phyllis to write a letter to the W.C. Board, telling them of our decision.

There were some questions on whether or not the Units can choose their own Directors for Sectionals. Phil said they may, if there is no conflict..

A motion was made that Doug pay each of us present 3 days per diem and hotel; except for Robin, 1 night hotel, and 3 days per diem; Doug to have 4 days hotel and per diem. Motion carried.

Phyllis asked if each of the members would contribute an article to the Forum. Wayne will start, with an article in next months paper; then Doug, Paul, Margaret, Robin, and Linda. These articles to be titled "Comments from District #18 Board Members".

We will have our next meeting in Calgary on July 20. Meeting adjourned until that time.

Margaret Simonson, Secretary